MARCH 2018 VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3

We Create Community

LONG BEACH
PARKS•RECREATION•MARINE

Groundbreaking Held For New Houghton Park Community Center

Getting the construction officially underway are L-R: Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the California State Assembly representing the 63rd Assembly District; Megan Kerr, President LBUSD Board of Education; Steven Neal, Chair, Measure A Citizens Advisory Committee; Vice Mayor Rex Richardson; Craig Beck, Director of Public Works and Stephen Scott, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Houghton Park Community Center on March 3.

The project includes the construction of a new 6,500 square foot community center, with associated existing building renovations, utilities, and hardscape and landscape site improvements. It will connect to the existing community center via a breezeway and will surround historic sections of the 1930's portion of the building. The new building will be constructed to the east of the existing community center, and will feature two large multipurpose rooms that can be divided into two rooms with a retractable wall. The multipurpose rooms will contain equipment, material storage and amenities to support a variety of programs and activities. The project will also result in a more accessible, reconfigured parking lot.

The building is designed to earn a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Rating and will use drought tolerant landscaping around the building and courtyard to cut down on water usage.

"The Houghton Park Community Center will set a new standard for design and complement our new Michelle Obama Library and Fire Station 12," said Mayor Robert Garcia. "I am proud to mention that this project is made possible in part by Measure A, which voters passed in 2016 to fund public infrastructure and public safety services."

Third Artificial Turf Field Dedicated at Admiral Kidd Park

Officially opening the Admiral Kidd Artificial Turf Field are L-R: Sean Crumby, Deputy Director/City Engineer, Public Works; City Manager Pat West, Councilmember Roberto Uranga; Parks & Recreation Commissioner David Zanatta; Stephen Scott, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation & Marine; and Meredith Reynolds, Park Development Officer for Parks, Recreation & Marine

The new Admiral Kidd Park artificial turf sports field officially opened to the public on March 3.

"This is the third new artificial turf field that has opened in Long Beach in the past three months," said Mayor Robert Garcia. "This new field will provide more access to year-round recreational amenities while contributing to water conservation and reduced maintenance costs."

The project converted 1.93 acres of an existing grass sports field to artificial turf with organic cork/sand infill. Site improvements include landscaped areas and site furnishings, such as picnic tables and garbage containers, and upgraded drainage and fencing. The benefits of the conversion include water conservation, a more durable and consisten playing surface; increased hours of play by eliminating field closures for sod replacement or rain events, and reduced field maintenance costs.

"This new field will help ease the constant demand for soccer fields in our community," said Councilmember Roberto Uranga. "The qualities of this new artificial turf field will provide for more hours of play and improved, safer playing conditions."

The construction of the new artificial turf field, managed by the Department of Public Works, was finished on time and on budget. The total project cost was approximately $1.9 million, and was made possible by FY 14 and FY 15 one-time funds that were budgeted in the Capital Projects Fund in the Public Works Department.

Artificial turf soccer fields also recently opened at the Drake Chavez Greenbelt in January and at Seaside Park in November, 2017.

Stephen P. Scott Named Interim Director for Parks, Recreation and Marine

Long Beach City Manager, Patrick H. West, named Stephen P. Scott as the interim director of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) effective February 24, 2018. The City will conduct a national recruitment for the next Department Director.

"Stephen is already integral to the Parks team, and has made a positive impact on the many community-focused projects and programs the department has initiated in recent years," said City Manager Patrick H. West. "Stephen's working knowledge of the department and leadership skills will be a great asset to the City as we search for a new director."

Mr. Scott is currently the Deputy Director for PRM, and has previously served the City as the Interim Director. He previously was the Customer Services Manager in the Department of Technology and Innovation; Assistant to the City Manager; and Administrative Analyst in the City's Budget Office. Mr. Scott holds a Master's Degree in Public Management from the University of Wisconsin, Madison's LaFollette School of Public Affairs, and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He is a Long Beach resident. Mr. Scott will not be a candidate for the director of PRM position.

Marie Knight, previous director of PRM, accepted a position with the City of Huntington Beach as the Director of Community Services. Her last day with the City of Long Beach was in February.

Animal Care Services Open House Informs Public About Programs and Progress

Residents had an opportunity to learn about Long Beach Animal Care (ACS) programs and services, and their impressive animal welfare statistics for the past year at the annual ACS Open House on February 17. Highlights of 2017 included:

- A study of coyote behavior
- More than 170 adoptions at the Cat Adoption Center
- The Annual Kitty Hall Program was filmed by Shelter Me for PBS and 20 cats were adopted
- A new animal adoption van brought adoptable animals to community events
- Full-time veterinary and marketing positions were added.

Mayor Robert Garcia acknowledged the audience saying that now more than ever ACS and its dedicated volunteers are responsible for more animal lives being saved and more adoptions.

Several volunteers were honored for their service including promoting ACS programs, assisting in caring for animals, and other support activities including:

- One Too Many Award (for rehoming overlooked animals): Friends of Long Beach Animals
- Helping Hand Honoree: Diane Tankard
- Dynamic Duo Volunteers: Wendy and Bill Steelhammer
- Spirit of Dr. Loren Eslinger Volunteer of the Year: Julie Somers, Pet Food Express Satellite Adoption Center
- Rookie of the Year: Colleen Shackley
- Cat's Best Friend: Wendy Williams
- Dogs' Best Friend: Mary Agugliaro

New Dog Play Yard Enriches Shelter Dogs

A new 500-square foot "Reed's Corner" Dog Play Yard was constructed with funds provided by Kay Reed and Friends of Long Beach Animals. The yard was named in memory of Kay's husband, Harold Reed. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place after the Open House, and the public got a one-time glance at the dogs enjoying the yard, as the space isn't open to the public.

According to ACS Bureau Manager Ted Stevens, the area benefits dogs physically and mentally, and helps dogs to become more socialized and adoptable. "Dogs can just be dogs," said Stevens. "20-30 minutes of play in the yard is as enriching and as much of a stress outlet as several hours of walking on a leash."

Cutting the ribbon on the new Reed's Corner Dog Play Yard are L-R: FOLBA Vice President Nona Daly (holding ribbon) Kay Reed, Mayor Robert Garcia, and Fifth District City Councilmember Stacy Mungo, and FOLBA President Stacy Couch.

Summer Day Camp Registration Begins April 14

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 14. Long Beach Parks Recreation & Marine 2018 Summer Day Camp registration begins on-line at 8 a.m. Visit www.lbparks.org to sign your child up for a summer of fun, enriching, activities.

Camps run weekly from June 18 – August 24, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Extended hours are available for an additional fee. Visit www.lbparks.org for fee information. Financial is assistance available.

Park Camps

Pee Wee Camp, Ages 5-8, Wardlow Park, 562.570.1705

High Five Sports Camp, Ages 5-12, Pan American Park, 562.570.1660

Day Camp - El Dorado Park West , Ages 5-12, 562.570.3225

Day Camp - Silverado Park , Ages 5-12, 562.570.1675

Day Camp - Veterans Park, Ages 5-12, 562.570.1695

Music & Arts Camp, Ages 5-12, Whaley Park, 562.570.1710

Aquatics Camps - Call 562.570.1888 for more information.

Belmont Junior Aquatics Camp, Ages 5-7, $158 per week

Bayshore Beach Camp, Ages 8-12, $158 per week

Bay Club Teen Camp, Ages 13-15, $123 per week

Counselor in Training Camp, Ages 14-17, $310 for one four-week session, June 25-July 20.

Save the Date
Earth Day Beach Cleanup - April 21

Join the El Dorado Nature Center staff and partners for the annual Earth Day Coastal Cleanup Day on April 21 from 10 a.m. – Noon. Participation is easy. Just sign up at one of these two sites:

Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier (park in lot at end of Termino and Ocean) or Cherry Beach (park in lot at Junipero and Ocean)

Parks, Recreation and Marine will provide bags and gloves, or you can bring your own and an old bucket. The event is an opportunity to bring the community together to increase awareness about issues related to marine debris and the health of our coastline. Call 562.570.1745 for more information.

By the Numbers:
Community Recreation Services: January 2018

Permits to Gather	37
Reserved Picnic Sites	3
Number of Contract Classes	234
Facility Use Permits Issued	60
Field Use Permits Issued	110
El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes	721
El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries	7,405
Adult Sports League Participants	4,850
Visits to City Pools	9,905
Youth and Teen Participants	40,719
Senior Citizen Participants	26,389
Visits to El Dorado Nature Center	31,329

Los Angeles Clippers Street Team Youth Basketball Skills Competition

The Parks, Recreation and Marine youth basketball leagues ended their season with an opportunity to participate in a basketball skills competition conducted by the Los Angeles Clippers Basketball Street Team. On March 10, youth from the girls and boys of the "E" Division (ages 8-10) met at the Chavez Elementary Gymnasium for an energetic day of fun.

The skills competition was comprised of a three-point shoot out challenge, that used a nine-foot basket and an obstacle course challenge designed to test player's dribbling, passing and shooting ability.

This season finale event highlighted a very successful season and partnership with the Los Angeles Clippers Youth Basketball Foundation. More than1,200 youth participated in the citywide basketball program for ages 5-16 years. All of the youth that participated in the event received certificates, medals and a Clipper - autographed hat.

Stearns Champions Park Staff Welcomes International Visitors

On February 14 Stearns Champions Park Recreation Leaders Robert Benjamin, Shaellena Davis, Yesenia Hernandez, Casey Jones, Judith Lopez, Isaac Najera, Gabriella Ocampo and Lyzz Robertson hosted a tour for 67 students and three professors from the Josai International University of Japan.

The students are majoring in Therapeutic Recreation and Medicine were visiting Long Beach through CSULB's International Programs. They visited Stearns Champions to learn about Parks, Recreation and Marine's ARISE, Adaptive Recreation and Public Recreation Programs.

Jackson Park Playground Funded by Measure A Nears Completion

The first Measure A playground replacement is nearing completion at Jackson Park thanks to a coordinated staff effort. Elizabeth Norman from the PRM Planning and Development Division secured several grants that supplemented the playground equipment and rubberized safety surfacing. Gladys Kaiser and Ashleigh Griset from Community Recreation Services, and Kelly Parkins, and Oscar Alaniz from Maintenance Operations (MOB) along with Ken Roberts (formerly with MOB) provided input on equipment, layout and colors. Public Works Project Manager Adrian Pavon oversaw design and construction.

The project includes a play structure and swings suitable for ages 2-12 years old and rubberized safety surfacing.

By the Numbers: Maintenance Operations Bureau - February 2018

Community Service Workers (CSW) program

Number of persons enrolled in the program for January.....62
Total number of CSW Hours for January.....1,518
Total number of hours worked at Queensway Bay.....0
(Water cleanup, debris removal, litter pickup)

Total number of hours worked at Beach Maintenance.....99
(Litter pickup on beachess, parking lots, Belmont Pool, Ocean Blvd., Peninsula)

Total number of hours worked at Marine Maintenance.....455
(Litter pickup at Belmont Pier, maintenance building, and custodial work)

Total number of hours worked at El Dorado Park areas.....551
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility sites including Tree Farm and Night Crew)

Total number of hours worked at Tree Farm.....7
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility)

Total number of hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands.....217
(Litter and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon)

Total number of hours worked at special clean-ups.....189
(Neighborhood clean-ups, graffiti paint-outs and community events)

Work orders completed.....504
Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis 172
Facilities and Gymnasiums cleaned and stocked daily.....28

Park acres maintained

Park turf.....814
Park landscape.....2,310
Street (medians) turf.....53
Street landscape.....143

Water Use:

MOB GP105 Water cost & Consumption for January 2018
Parks and Street Island Potable.....20,178.....$93,801
Parks and Street Island Reclaimed.....1,865.....$11,622

Know Your Long Beach Parks: Plaza Zafaria

Plaza Zafaria Park at Redondo Avenue and Pacific Coast Highway was built on land leftover from the realignment of Redondo Avenue. The passive park consists of lawn and trees.

The neighborhood where the .81-acre park is located was named Zafaria after the Pacific Electric Railway depot built at Anaheim Street and Obispo Avenue, in 1904. It is a Spanish word meaning small village or ranch house site. The East Long Beach Improvement Association suggested the name, which was adopted by City Council resolution on February 17, 1953.

The area adjacent to the depot was settled as early as 1899. The Zafaria community centered on Anaheim Street, between Temple and Loma Avenues, extends north of Pacific Coast Highway and south to 11th Street. The Pacific Electric linked Zafaria with Long Beach, along its Redondo and East Broadway lines, in 1907. The lines ceased operations in 1961.

Long Beach Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Heidi Mazas, who was selected by the Employee Recognition Committee as the Employee of the Month for the City of Long Beach. Heidi came to the Department from the City of Signal Hill, where she worked for 15 years. For the past two years, she has served as the Community Services Supervisor assigned to Cesar Chavez Park, where she demonstrated strong leadership skills since day one.

Heidi provides excellent customer service to both participants and parents in the programs she supervises. She has worked hard to develop good rapport and excellent relationships with staff of all levels. Heidi is friendly, always helpful, and sets an excellent example for her staff by making safety her highest priority. Heidi also goes above and beyond by serving on the Teen Committee and the CPRS District 10 Board of Directors. Heidi was recently assigned to Houghton Park and will be working with the staff there to continue to do great things for the community. She is an employee of the highest caliber and is very deserving of this recognition.

The City of Long Beach and the Departments of Parks, Recreation & Marine and Public Works cordially invite you to attend the

Grand Opening Ceremony

of the

Red Car Greenway

March 24, 2018
Noon

Northwest corner of Fourth Street and Park Avenue
Call 562.570.3150 for more information

March - April 2018 Calendar of Events

March

Th. 22	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West Senior Center
Sat. 24	Noon	Red Car Greenway Grand Opening	Park Ave. & 4th Street.

April

Sun. 1		Easter	
Mon. 2	Varies	Four-Week Swim Mon/Wed Lessons Begin	Silverado Park Pool
	Varies	Free Spring Fun Days for Youh	Visit www.lbparks.org for locations.
Tue. 3	Varies	Four-Week Swim Tu/Th Lessons Begin	King Park Pool
	Varies	Free Spring Fun Days for Youh	Visit www.lbparks.org for locations.
Wed. 4	Varies	Free Spring Fun Days for Youh	Visit www.lbparks.org for locations.
Th. 5	4 p.m.	Mobile Pet Vaccination & Microchip Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park
	Varies	Free Spring Fun Days for Youh	isit www.lbparks.org for locations.
Fri. 6	Varies	Free Spring Fun Days for Youh	Visit www.lbparks.org for locations.
	10 a.m.	Jackson Park Playground Grand Opening	1432 Jackson Street
Sat. 7	10 a.m.	*First Saturday Stewards Volunteer Cleanup	El Dorado Nature Center
	2 p.m.	"Out of the Wilds/Into Garden" Native Plant Class	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 9	Varies	Four-Week Swim Mon/Wed Lessons Begin	Belmont Plaza Pool
Tue. 10	Varies	Four-Week Swim Tu/Th Lessons Begin	Belmont Plaza Pool
Th. 12	2:30 p.m.	Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Yacht ClubFri.
Sat. 14	8 a.m.	Summer Day Camp Registration Begins	Visit www.lbparks.org
Wed. 18	9 a.m.	Senior Citizens Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
Th. 19	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Mobile Pet Vaccination & Microchip Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park
Sat. 21	10 a.m.	Earth Day Coastal Cleanup	East of Belmont Vets Mem. Pier
Sat. 28	Varies	Eight-Week Saturday Swim Lessons Begin	Belmont, King & Silverado Pools
Mon. 30		Summer "Recreation Connection" Published	

*Call for registration and fee information.

NATIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER!

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE SELECTED BEST IN THE NATION

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